On the unabashed Asian Right, the hardest blow at Senator Kennedy was struck in a Nationalist Chinese Central Daily News editorial, reprinted in Taiwan's Free China Weekly:

It is unfortunate that Senator Kennedy should assume a position that is both arrogant and ignorant.

The wash of criticism failed to quench Senator Kennedy's conviction that unconditional cessation of the bombing of North Vietnam had been worth a try. A gesture from the U.S., his proposed gesture, Kennedy argued, and perhaps there would be no dilemma of Vietnam.

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L'AFFAIRE C.I.A.

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IN THE U.S., L'Affaire C.I.A. was more than a shattering embarrassment. There was an especially sharp sting in the central fact that very important young Americans — the nation's college students — had been involved, all but a few unwittingly, in a secret system of C.I.A. payola — money for trips abroad, for organizations, etc.

Abroad, L'Affaire C.I.A. used up rolls of newsprint and countless hours on the airwaves. The weekly Jeune Afrique of Paris spoke up with a cold evaluation of the whole student movement:

In self-defense, the dispensers of these dubious benefits have an argument. They say: The Soviets do the same thing. This is possible, but we see no reason to be happy about it. The Student Council of the U.S.S.R. consists of high-level bureaucrats who know where to get their hands on finances. The head of the Chinese delegation at the last Congress of the International Students Union was a man fifty years old who completed his studies a long time ago and had climbed all the rungs to a fine administrative career. What does this prove? That the student movement is sick, poisoned, conditioned, malleable, exploited. That youth must shake off the double tutelage of money and ideological monitors and show its elders that rather than being raw material, it knows how to act as a rebellious material.

Cozier days with the U.S. or not, the Soviet Union got in its best licks since Gary Powers flew his U-2 over its territory. Recalling remarks attributed to Dr. Steven Boggs in Pittsburgh that the C.I.A. was sending agents abroad posing as anthropologists, Radio Moscow bombarded the hemispheres with charges going far beyond the C.I.A.-student disclosures:

Official Washington acts as though the whole world should be what America wants it to be, and the C.I.A., though it may have been founded for a different purpose, has become a vehicle of such an attitude. . . . Agents of the C.I.A. wander all over the world as outright agents, as tourists, as students or as scientists, just as though the world were one big American home and Washington had to check up to see whether the furniture was in place and people were saying and doing what they should be. If some Latin American government fails to please Washington, the C.I.A. sees that it gets overthrown. If a liberation movement starts up in Asia or Africa, the C.I.A., and the Pentagon with it, rush about to channel the movement in a different direction.